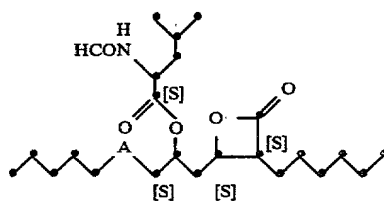


What is claimed is:

1. A composition suitable for administration to an animal for the purpose of sequestering one or more lipophilic materials present in the gastrointestinal tract of the animal, wherein the composition comprises a non-digestible, non-absorbable, open-celled polymeric foam.
2. The composition according to Claim 1 wherein the foam has a density of less than about 0.1 g/cc.
3. The composition according to Claim 2 wherein the foam comprises a component selected from the group consisting of celluloses, chitins, chitosans, natural sponges, synthetic sponges, polyvinyl acetate, polyvinyl alcohol, polyurethanes, polyacrylates, polymethacrylates, polystyrenics, polyolefins, copolymers thereof, and mixtures thereof.
4. The composition according to Claim 2 wherein the foam is a HIPE foam.
5. The composition according to Claim 4 wherein the HIPE foam is characterized by the following:
 - (a) a specific surface area per foam volume of at least about 0.01 m²/cc; and
 - (b) a glass transition temperature (T_g) from about -40°C to about 90°C.
6. The composition according to Claim 1 further comprising a lipase inhibitor.
7. The composition according to Claim 4 further comprising a lipase inhibitor.

8. The composition according to Claim 7 wherein the lipase inhibitor is selected from the group consisting of 2-amino-4H-3,1-benzoxazin-4-one and its derivatives; 2-oxy-4H-3,1-benzoxazin-4-ones and its derivatives; 2-thio-4H-3,1-benzoxazin-4-one and its derivatives; tetrahydrolipstatin and its derivatives; chiral alkylphosphonates; chiral isomers of beta-lactone; and mixtures thereof.
9. The composition according to Claim 8 wherein at least one of the lipase inhibitors is a compound having the structure:



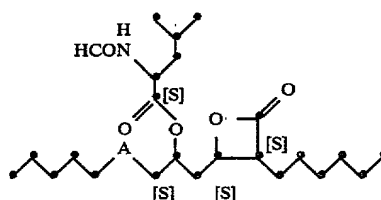
wherein A is the group



or $-(CH_2)_5-$.

10. A method of sequestering lipophilic materials present in the gastrointestinal tract of an animal comprising administration of a composition comprising a non-digestible, non-absorbable, open-celled polymeric foam to the animal.
11. The method according to Claim 10 wherein the foam has a density of less than about 0.1 g/cc.
12. The method according to Claim 11 wherein the foam is a HIPE foam.

13. The method according to Claim 12 wherein the composition is administered in an amount which is from about 0.02% to about 2% of the diet of the animal, by weight of the diet on a dry basis.
14. The method according to Claim 12 further comprising administration of a lipase inhibitor to the animal.
15. The method according to Claim 14 wherein the composition comprises the lipase inhibitor and wherein the lipase inhibitor is selected from the group consisting of 2-amino-4H-3,1-benzoxazin-4-one and its derivatives; 2-oxy-4H-3,1-benzoxazin-4-ones; 2-thio-4H-3,1-benzoxazin-4-one and its derivatives; tetrahydrolipstatin and its derivatives; chiral alkylphosphonates; chiral isomers of beta-lactone; and mixtures thereof.
16. The method according to Claim 15 wherein the lipase inhibitor is a compound having the structure:



wherein A is the group

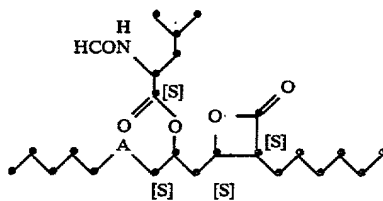


or $-(CH_2)_5-$.

17. A method selected from the group consisting of treating gastrointestinal distress, treating fecal urgency, treating obesity, treating hyperlipidemia, treating diarrhea, inhibiting anal leakage, reducing levels of toxic substances, reducing blood cholesterol levels, inducing satiety, effecting weight loss, effecting weight control, and combinations thereof in an

animal, the method comprising administration of a composition comprising a non-digestible, non-absorbable, open-celled polymeric foam to the animal.

18. The method according to Claim 17 wherein the foam is a HIPE foam.
19. The method according to Claim 18 wherein the composition is administered in an amount which is from about 0.02% to about 2% of the diet of the animal, by weight of the diet on a dry basis.
20. The method according to Claim 18 further comprising administration of a lipase inhibitor to the animal.
21. The method according to Claim 20 wherein the composition comprises the lipase inhibitor and wherein the lipase inhibitor is selected from the group consisting of 2-amino-4H-3,1-benzoxazin-4-one and its derivatives; 2-oxy-4H-3,1-benzoxazin-4-ones; 2-thio-4H-3,1-benzoxazin-4-one and its derivatives; tetrahydrolipstatin and its derivatives; chiral alkylphosphonates; chiral isomers of beta-lactone; and mixtures thereof.
22. The method according to Claim 21 wherein the lipase inhibitor is a compound having the structure:

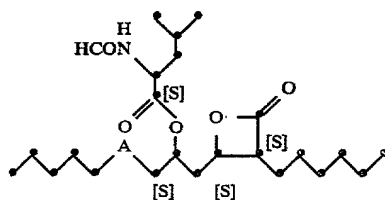


wherein A is the group



or $-(CH_2)_5-$.

23. A kit comprising:
- (a) a first composition comprising a non-digestible, non-absorbable, open-celled polymeric foam; and
 - (b) a second composition comprising a component selected from the group consisting of vitamins, lipase inhibitors, laxatives, and combinations thereof.
24. The kit according to Claim 23 wherein the foam is a HIPE foam.
25. The kit according to Claim 23 wherein the second composition comprises a lipase inhibitor selected from the group consisting of 2-amino-4H-3,1-benzoxazin-4-one and its derivatives; 2-oxy-4H-3,1-benzoxazin-4-ones and its derivatives; 2-thio-4H-3,1-benzoxazin-4-one and its derivatives; tetrahydrolipstatin and its derivatives; chiral alkylphosphonates; chiral isomers of beta-lactone; and mixtures thereof.
26. The kit according to Claim 25 wherein the lipase inhibitor is a compound having the structure:



wherein A is the group



or $-(CH_2)_5-$.

27. A kit comprising:

- (a) a composition comprising a non-digestible, non-absorbable, open-celled polymeric foam; and
- (b) information associated with the composition that use of the composition will provide one or more benefits selected from the group consisting of sequestration of lipophilic materials, treatment of gastrointestinal distress, treatment of fecal urgency, treatment of obesity, weight loss, weight control, treatment of hyperlipidemia, treatment of diarrhea, inhibition of anal leakage, reduction of levels of toxic substances, and combinations thereof.

28. The kit according to Claim 27 wherein the foam is a HIPE foam.